Destroyed by fire May 17, 1967

259 Robbins Road

Corner Primrose & Robbins

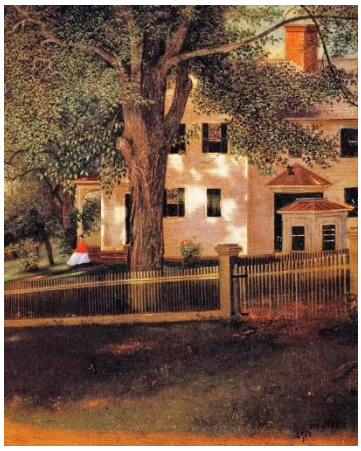
Built

Rev Royal Robbins 1804-1861

Berlin Land Records: Volume 12, page 261: 4/26/1820: Selah Cowles to Royal Robbins a tract of land containing 7 ½ acres. Bounded east and south on highway (Kensington Road? Robbins Road?) Western and of Widow Ruth Hart on land of Jabez Cowles *with the dwelling house and barn thereon*i

1935 Susqui-Centennial Celebration of the Town of Berlin – Berlin Old Houses.

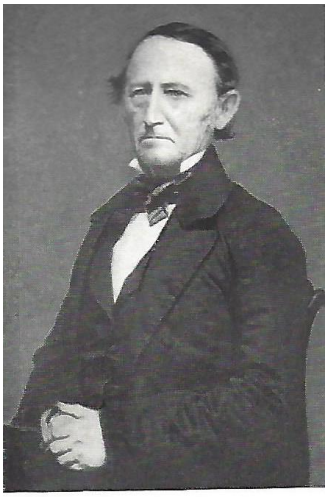
1821 Rev. Royal Robbins Current owner: Anne & George Clark



N. A. Moore painting

THE HOME OF REV. ROYAL ROBBINS
1821

Photo: Two Hundredth Anniversary, Kensington Congregational Church, c1912



REV. ROYAL ROBBINS

Genealogy

Rev. Royal Robbins (1804-1861), son of Capt. Elisha Robbins & Mary Horton. In 1816 he married Martha Wright (1786-1837) daughter of Ashbel Wright & Abigail Deming. They had children: Edward, Henry, Arabella, Chauncey, Frances, John, Royal, Martha. In 1839 he remarried to Elizabeth Russell (-1882) Royal graduated from Yale in 1800. He taught school, studied, law, then studied theology. He was the 4th minister at Kensington Congregational Church. He was ordained June 26, 1816 and resigned June 26, 1959. They are buried in Ledge Cemetery.

From Wikipedia

Royal Robbins (October 31, 1788 – March 26, 1961) was an American minister. He was the son of Elisha and Sarah (Goodrich) Robbins, and was born in Wethersfield. He graduated from Yale University in 1806. He taught school in Hadley, MA and in Berlin, CT, studied law with his uncle Asher Bobbins of Newport, RI, and prepared for ministry under the tuition of Rev. Dr. Porter of NY and Rev. Dr. Yales of East Hartford, was licensed in 1812, and ordained June 26, 1812. He became the assistant pastor under Rev. Upson in Kensington. He served in Kensington for 43 years until he was dismissed on June 28, 1859. He was an industrious writer and contributed many valuable papers to the Christian Spectator. He wrote Outlines of History for schools and a memoir of J.G.C. Brainard, an account of African literature in Chamber's History of English Literature.

Isaac Porter Jr (1857-1936) was born in Ohio, son of Fredrick Porter and Irene Toberts. In 1886 he married Alice Bauer (1861-1939), daughter of Jacob Bauer and Emily Moore. They had children: Emily, Oliver, Lawrence. They are buried in Ledge Cemetery. Isaac and Alice summered on Glen Stret and at 381 Percival Avenue (Percival homestead).

In the 1960s the property belonged to George Clark (1879-1961) and Annie (1880-1963), members of the Kensington Congregational Church.

[1]There is a rock at the Kensington Congregational Church that was an old Indian grinding stone. Originally it was located at the George Clark homestead at 259 Robbins Road and moved in the early 1970s. George was a deacon at the Kensington Congregational Church. There is a bowl shape in the rock surface that collects rain water. It was later used as a wash basin by farm workers.[2]

Fire: May 27, 1967: The Leedom family rented the house for two years. Fire destroyed the home when two young brothers played with matches in a closet. Their father, Thomas Leedom (August 24, 1937-May 17, 1967) age 29, buried Churchville, PA, design engineer at Stanley Works, son of Walter and Mari of Bucks County, PA, died trying to rescue the three youngest children: Cynthia Ann (May 1962-May 17, 1967), Mary Alice (1966-May 27, 1967), Anthony Albert – age 1 month.

Mother Marie/Mari – born in Hungary?, survived with their two sons, Thomas age 6 and Walter age 4. The family returned to Pennsylvania.

[1] Kensington Congregational Church, Reeves Center, Cathy Nelson photo
[2] Kensington Congregational Church, Gabriel's Trumpet, January 1996